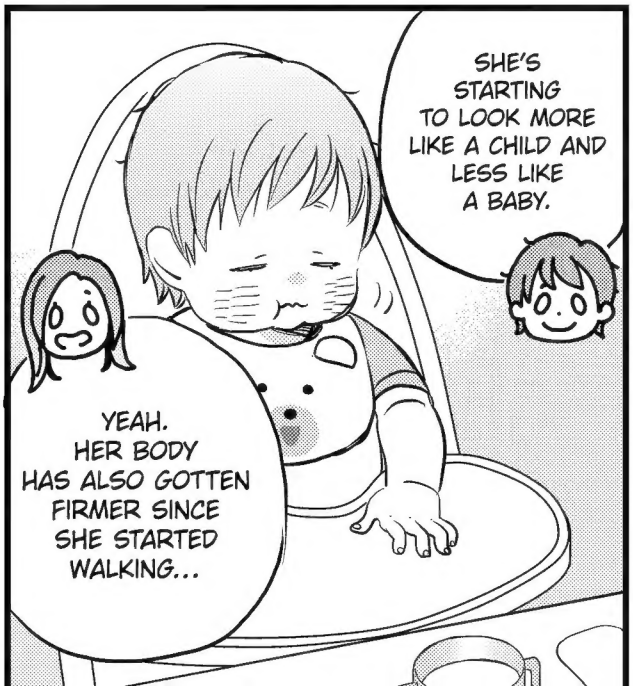
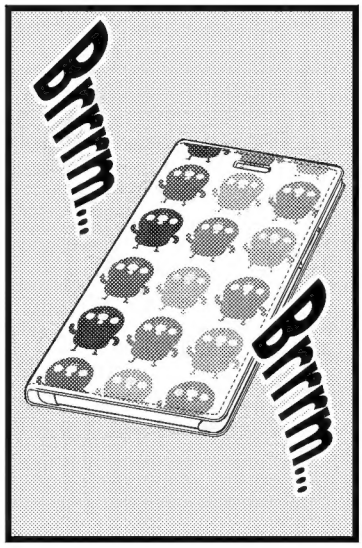
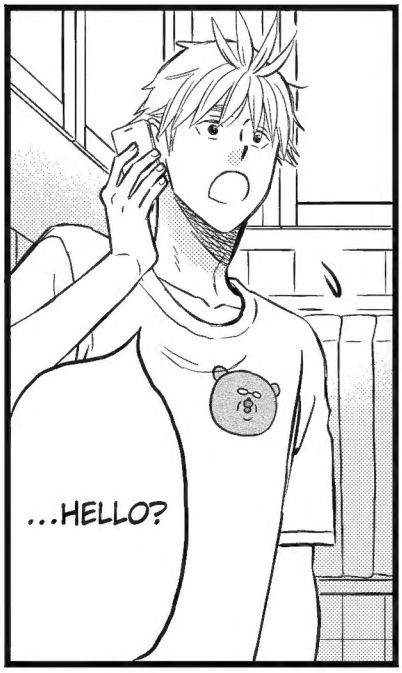
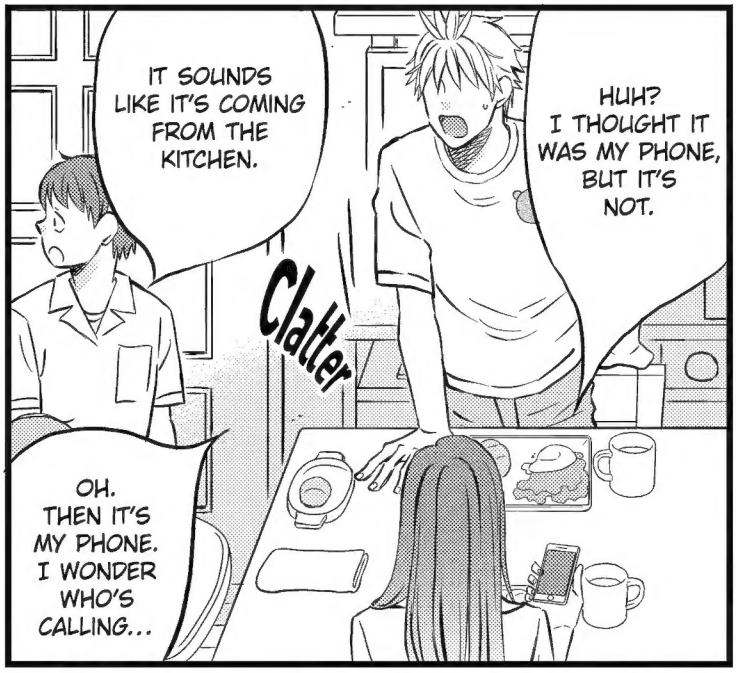
Chapter 78: Kirishima-kun and Daycare

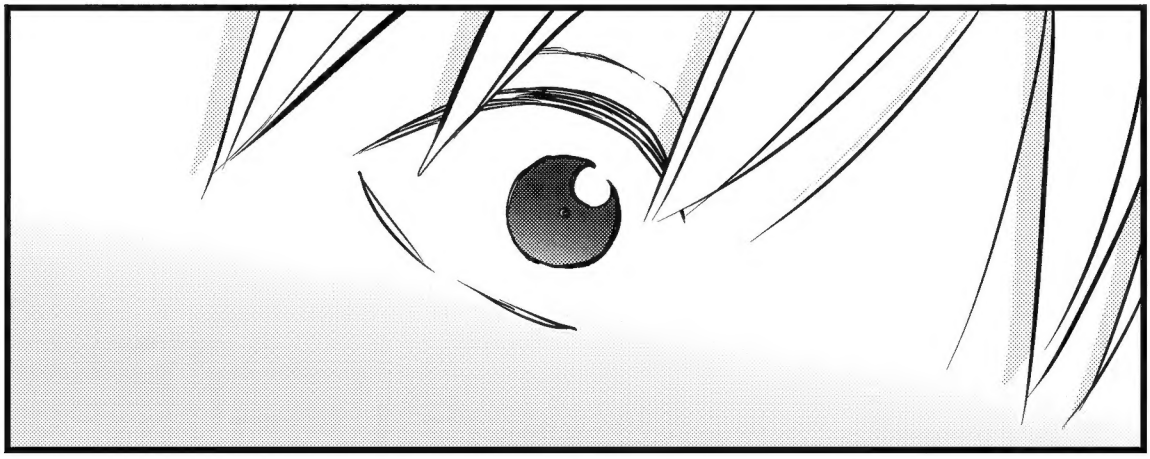


Brrrm...
IS IT YOURS, MOTHER?
Brrrm...
A PHONE IS VIBRATING.
Brrrm...
OHH?


Brrrm...
Brrrm...

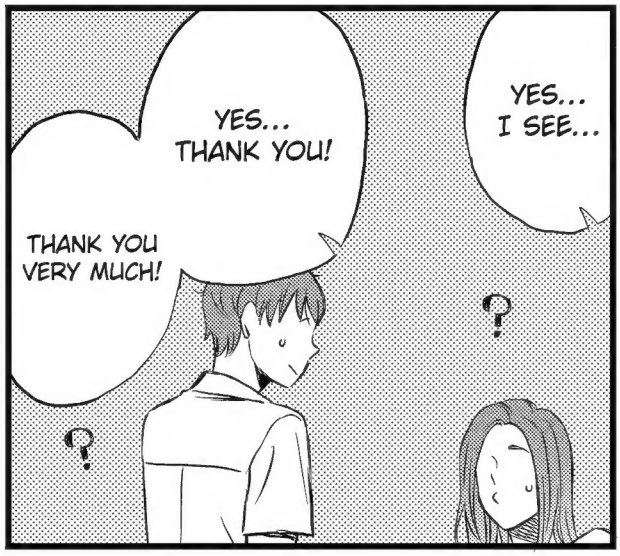

...HELLO?


IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM THE KITCHEN.
HUH? I THOUGHT IT WAS MY PHONE, BUT IT'S NOT.
Clatter
OH. THEN IT'S MY PHONE. I WONDER WHO'S CALLING...



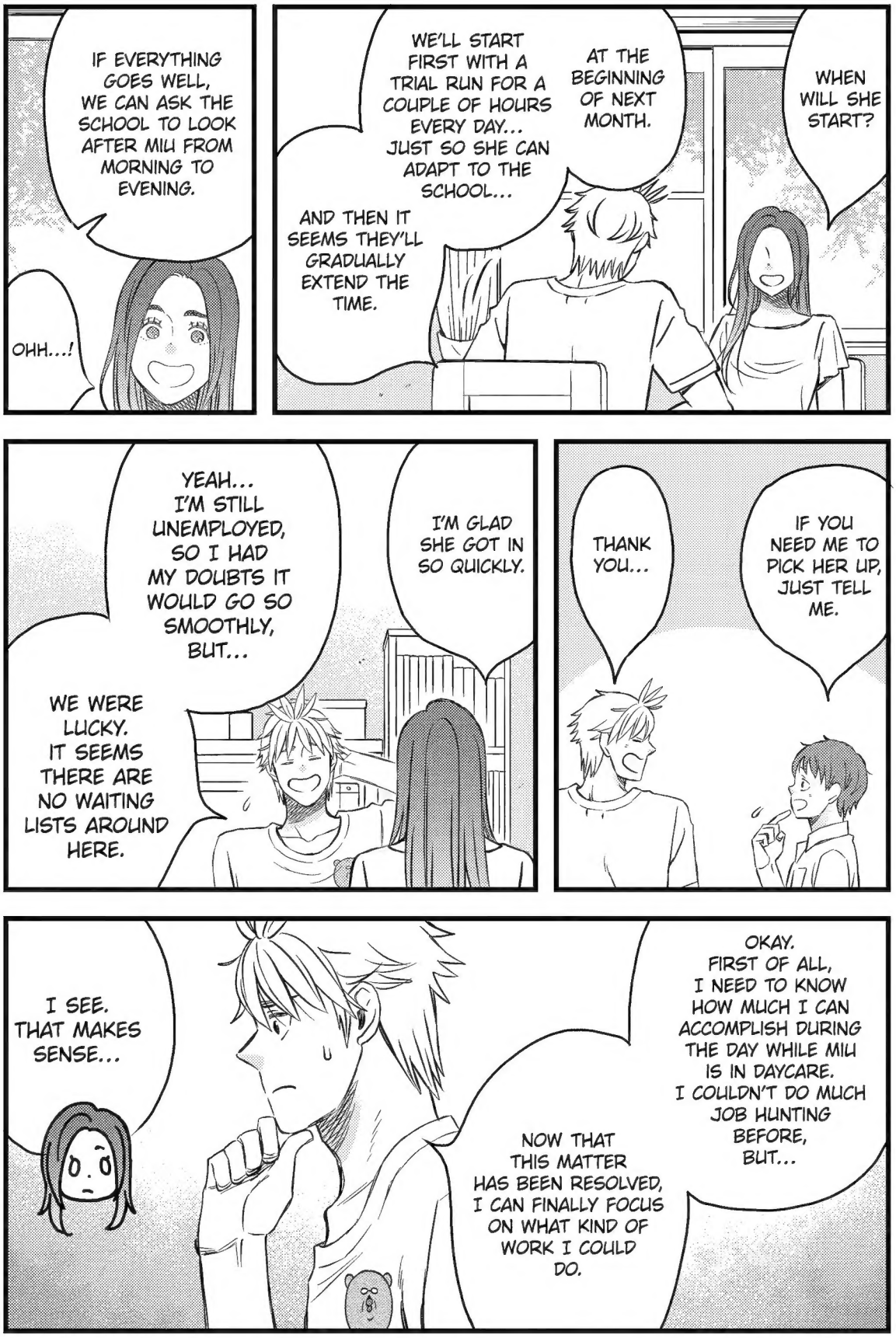
Straighten
THIS IS KIRISHIMA, YES!
OH! YES! YES...!

YES! THEN, PLEASE EXCUSE ME...


YES... THANK YOU!
YES... I SEE...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
?
?

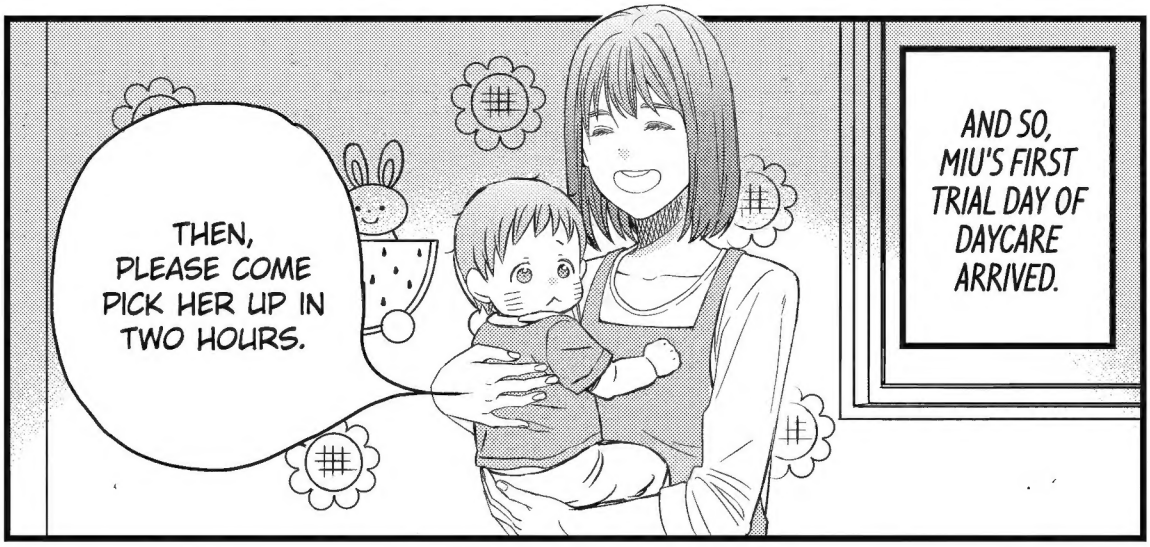
OHH...
WAS THAT A CALL FROM THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE?
RIIIIGHT! MIU WAS ADMITTED TO A DAYCARE...!
Imp
Imp

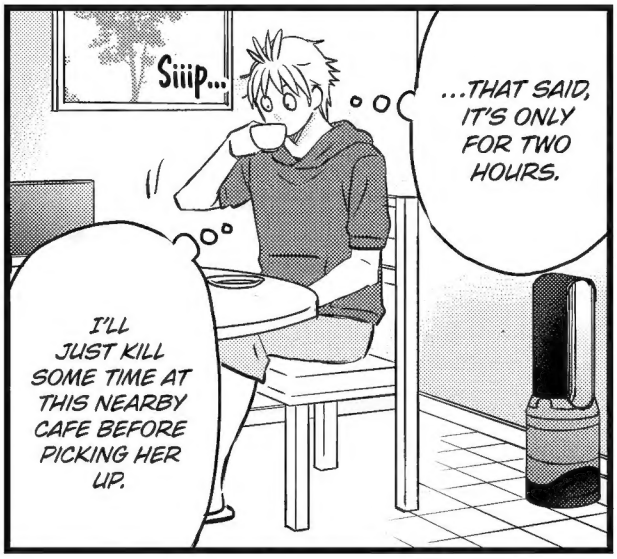
ALL...


IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL, WE CAN ASK THE SCHOOL TO LOOK AFTER MIU FROM MORNING TO EVENING.
OHH...!
WHEN WILL SHE START?
AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT MONTH.
WE'LL START FIRST WITH A TRIAL RUN FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS EVERY DAY... JUST SO SHE CAN ADAPT TO THE SCHOOL...
AND THEN IT SEEMS THEY'LL GRADUALLY EXTEND THE TIME.
I'M GLAD SHE GOT IN SO QUICKLY.
YEAH... I'M STILL UNEMPLOYED, SO I HAD MY DOUBTS IT WOULD GO SO SMOOTHLY, BUT...
WE WERE LUCKY. IT SEEMS THERE ARE NO WAITING LISTS AROUND HERE.
IF YOU NEED ME TO PICK HER UP, JUST TELL ME.
THANK YOU...
OKAY. FIRST OF ALL, I NEED TO KNOW HOW MUCH I CAN ACCOMPLISH DURING THE DAY WHILE MIU IS IN DAYCARE. I COULDN'T DO MUCH JOB HUNTING BEFORE, BUT...
NOW THAT THIS MATTER HAS BEEN RESOLVED, I CAN FINALLY FOCUS ON WHAT KIND OF WORK I COULD DO.
I SEE. THAT MAKES SENSE...

LET'S DO OUR BEST TOGETHER, MIU!
BA, BA!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!

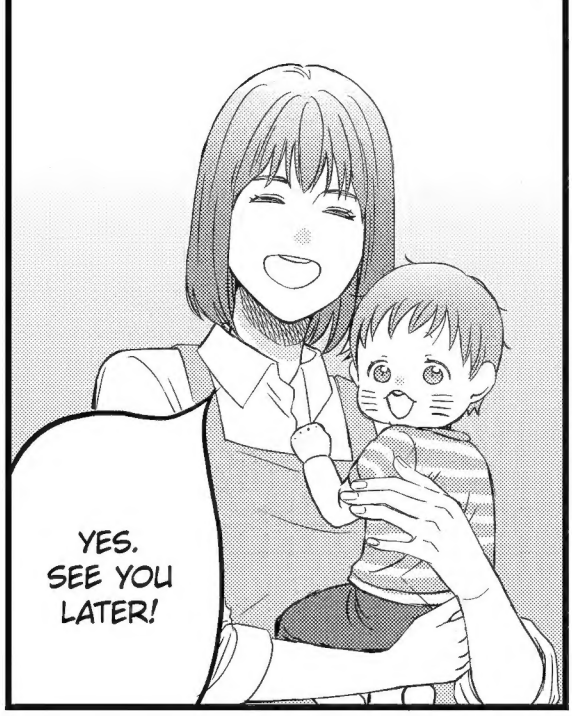
I'M ALSO CURIOUS IF MIU WILL ENJOY DAYCARE...
I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I'M NOT WORRIED, BUT...


AND SO, MIU'S FIRST TRIAL DAY OF DAYCARE ARRIVED.
THEN, PLEASE COME PICK HER UP IN TWO HOURS.

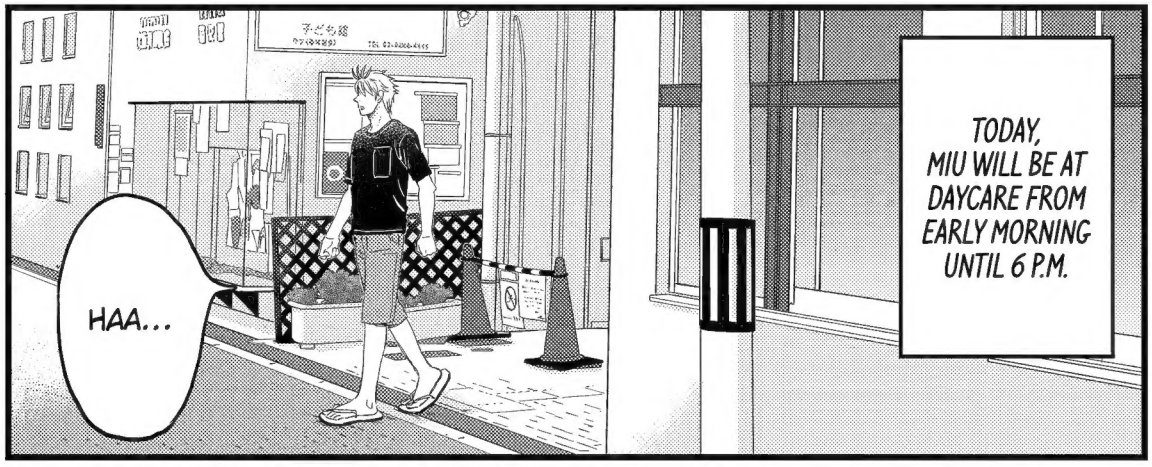

Siiip...
...THAT SAID, IT'S ONLY FOR TWO HOURS.
I'LL JUST KILL SOME TIME AT THIS NEARBY CAFE BEFORE PICKING HER UP.

THANK YOU. I'LL LEAVE MIU IN YOUR HANDS!
YES! SEE YOU LATER...!

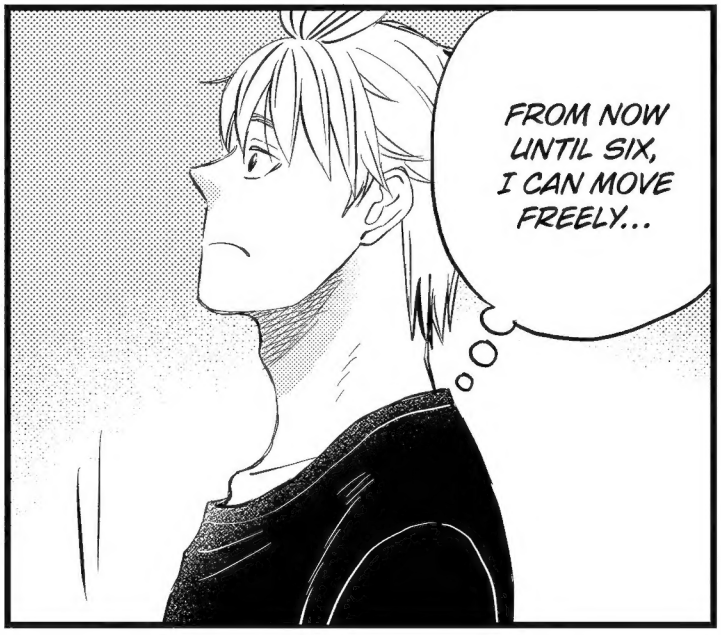
WHEN SHE SAW THERE WERE TOYS, HER MOOD IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY...
SHE CRIED A LITTLE AT FIRST, BUT...
Tee hee hee...
TWO HOURS LATER.
WELCOME BACK!
Ahhh!
HELLO! HOW WAS MIU? WAS SHE OKAY?
Mn...
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR...
AHHHH!
AND JUST LIKE THAT,
WHOA...! YOU SURE LOOK HAPPY!
KYA HAAA!
DID YOU HAVE FUN PLAYING WITH ALL THOSE TOYS?
BY TWO HOURS A DAY EVERY WEEK...
THE TIME AT DAYCARE WAS GRADUALLY EXTENDED...


YES. SEE YOU LATER!

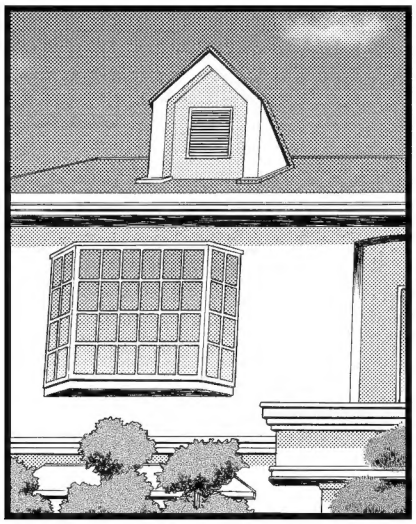
I'LL BE TAKING MY LEAVE, THEN.


TODAY, MIU WILL BE AT DAYCARE FROM EARLY MORNING UNTIL 6 P.M.
HAA...

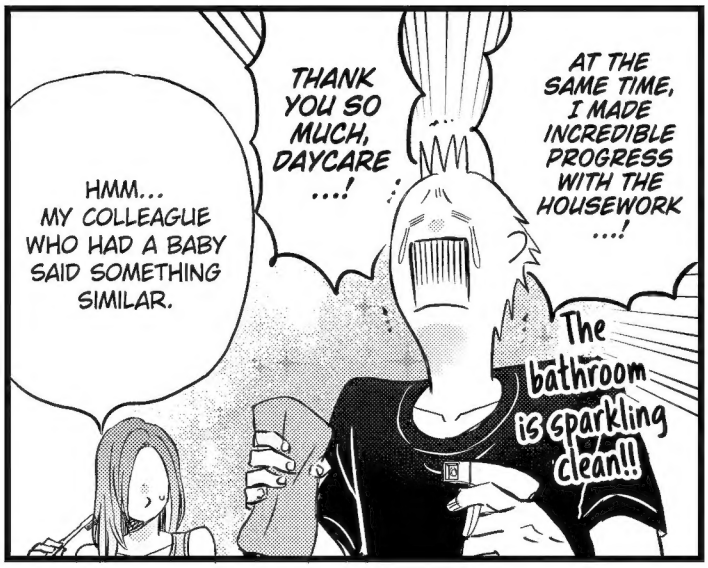
...


FROM NOW UNTIL SIX, I CAN MOVE FREELY...

WHAT A WONDERFUL SENSE OF LIBERATION...!!



SHOOT. I WAS SO HAPPY MY REACTION TURNED INTO A DOUBLE-PAGE SPREAD.
UGH... BUT NOW I FEEL BAD FOR MIU...
I'M MIU'S FATHER, YET I FEEL SO FREE WITHOUT MY DAUGHTER AROUND...

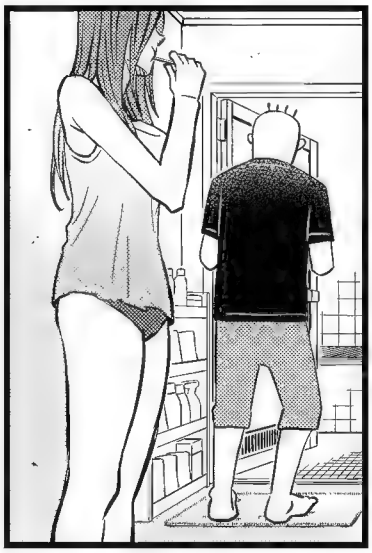

AT THE SAME TIME, I MADE INCREDIBLE PROGRESS WITH THE HOUSEWORK ...!
THANK YOU SO MUCH, DAYCARE ...!
HMM... MY COLLEAGUE WHO HAD A BABY SAID SOMETHING SIMILAR.
The bathroom is sparkling clean!!

SO... NOW YOU'RE FEELING VERY GUILTY ABOUT IT?
I AM... BUT...
Brush
Brush

"I'D PROBABLY COMMIT CHILD ABUSE IF IT WEREN'T FOR THEM..."
WHAAAT?
NO, NO... THAT'S A BIT TOO EXTREME...
Heh heh heh heh...

HER SON IS ACTUALLY A YEAR OLDER THAN MIU, BUT...
"TRULY... IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE DAYCARE THAT I'M ABLE TO WORK LIKE THIS..."

AND YET, A PART OF ME COULDN'T CLEARLY SAY, "NAH, I WOULD NEVER DO THAT LOL "...!!!



Then again, child abuse is absolutely not an option...

YOU'RE ALWAYS WORRIED MIU WILL DO SOMETHING DANGEROUS, SO YOU CAN'T TAKE YOUR EYES AWAY FROM HER AS LONG AS SHE'S AWAKE...

MAKE NO MISTAKE. MIU IS CUTE, OKAY?! SHE'S ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE, BUT...!!!

IT'S EASY TO IMAGINE BECOMING MENTALLY EXHAUSTED IF YOU CAN'T LET YOUR WORRIES OUT.

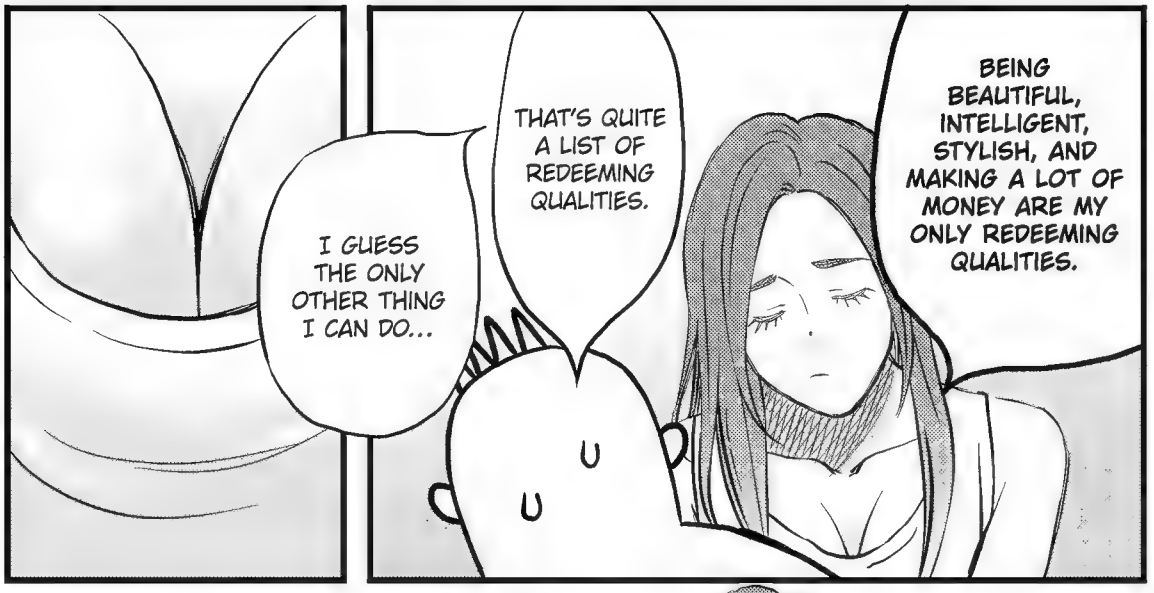
I CAN'T THINK OF YOU AS A BAD, UNLOVING PARENT FOR A SECOND.

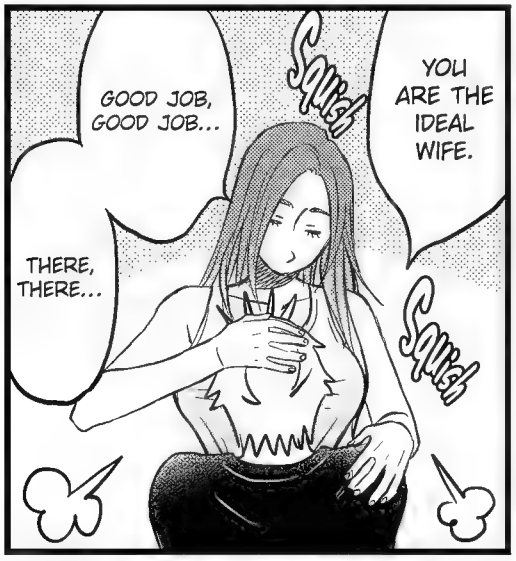
...AI-SAN...

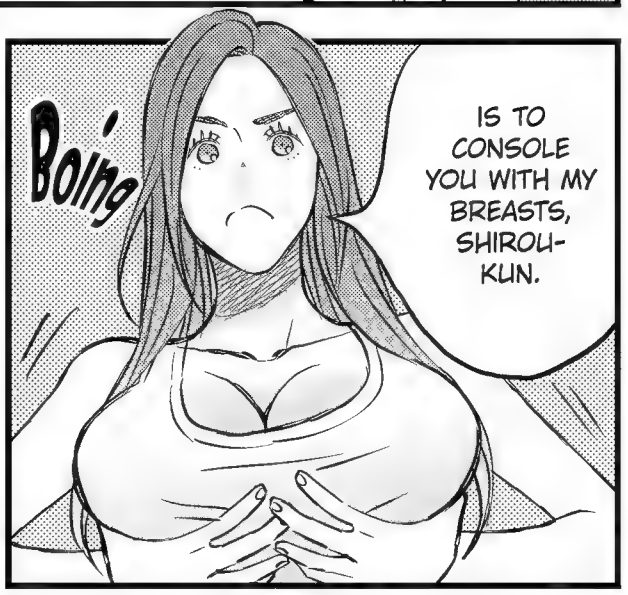
SHIROU-KUN, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT OUT OF EVERYONE...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO LOOKS AFTER HER AND IS CONCERNED ABOUT HER WELL-BEING THE MOST.

I ACTUALLY FEEL BAD THAT I DO SO LITTLE FOR HER...
YOU ALSO FEED MIU BABY FOOD, GIVE HER MILK, PUT HER TO BED, AND DO MANY OTHER THINGS...
NO, NO... I SHOULD SAY THAT TO YOU, AI-SAN. YOU HAVE YOUR EXHAUSTING SURGEON WORK AND YET...
AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK.

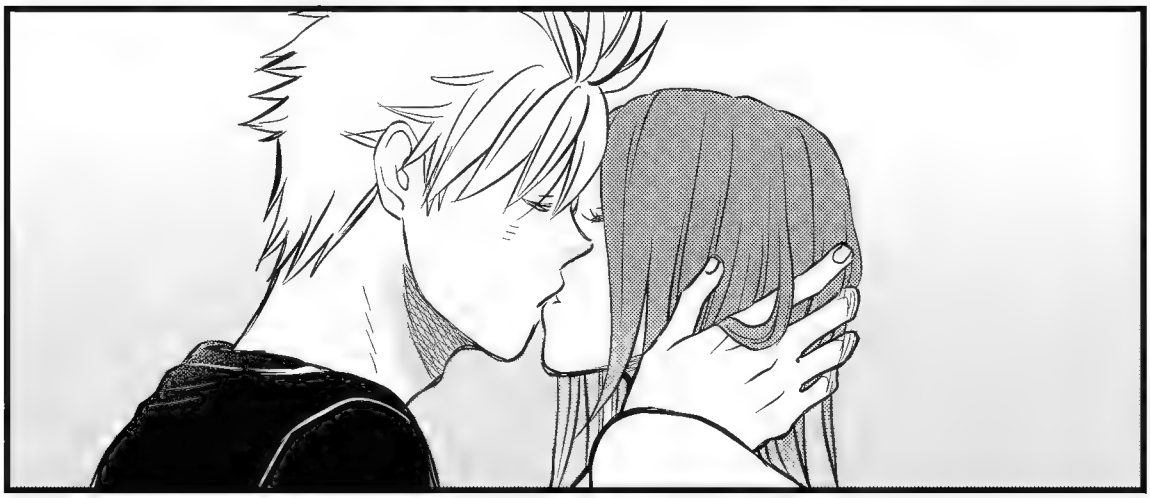

I GUESS THE ONLY OTHER THING I CAN DO...
THAT'S QUITE A LIST OF REDEEMING QUALITIES.
BEING BEAUTIFUL, INTELLIGENT, STYLISH, AND MAKING A LOT OF MONEY ARE MY ONLY REDEEMING QUALITIES.

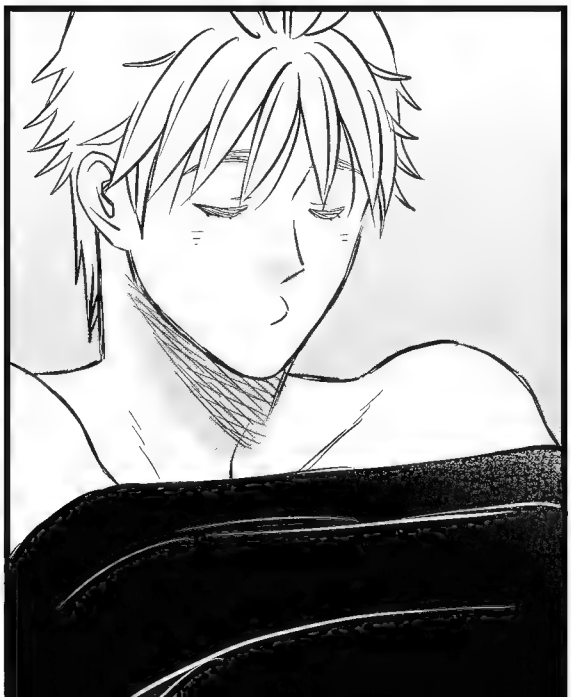

GOOD JOB, GOOD JOB...
THERE, THERE...
Squish
YOU ARE THE IDEAL WIFE.
Squish

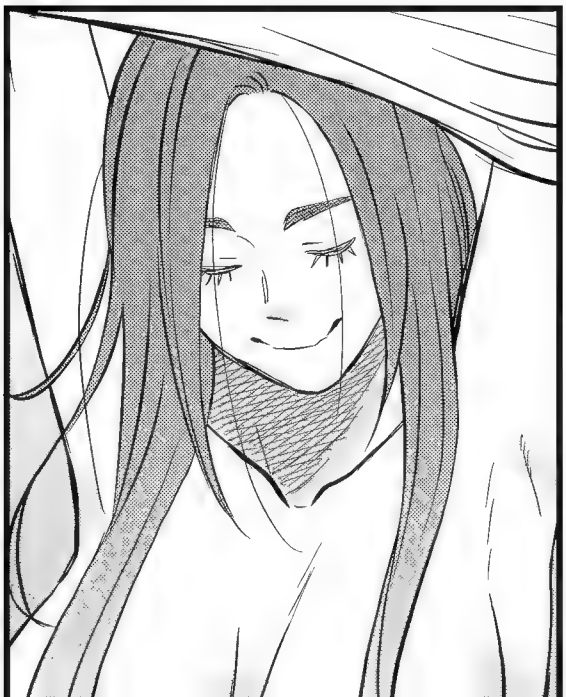

Boing
IS TO CONSOLE YOU WITH MY BREASTS, SHIROU-KUN.

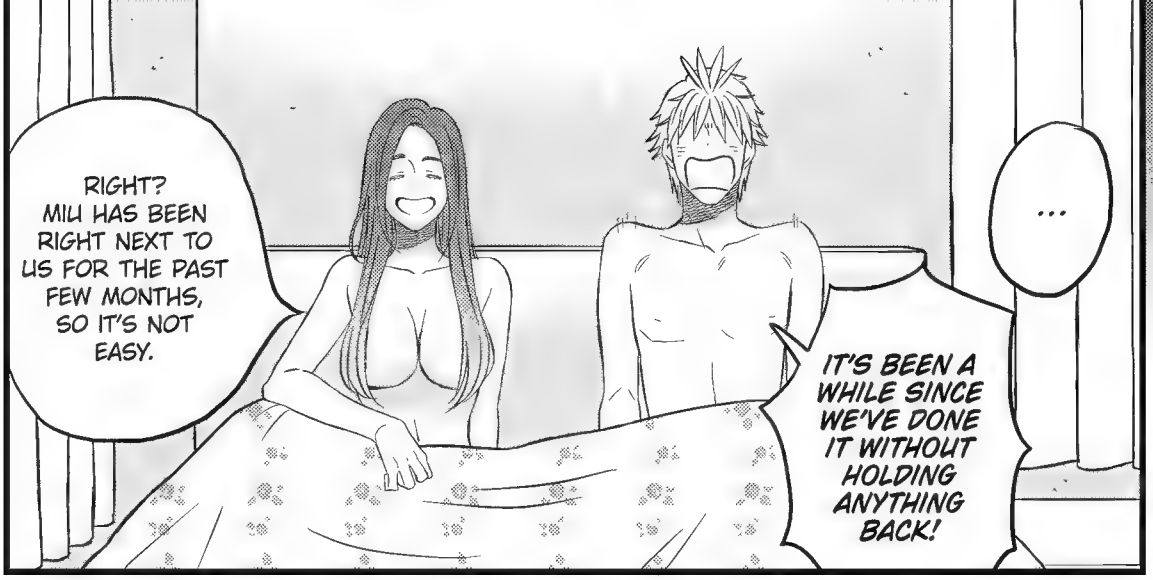
Let's go!
GOOD GRIEF...
AND YET WE'RE STILL DOING IT.

WANNA HAVE SEX?
ASIDE FROM YOUR DISASTROUS INABILITY TO SET THE MOOD IN SITUATIONS LIKE THESE, YOU ARE THE IDEAL WIFE...
I SEE.








RIGHT? MIU HAS BEEN RIGHT NEXT TO US FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS, SO IT'S NOT EASY.
...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE DONE IT WITHOUT HOLDING ANYTHING BACK!

AND LOOK!
Sparkle
THERE ISN'T A SINGLE SPECK OF DUST ON THE STAIRS...!

Shine
IT'S ALSO BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WAS ABLE TO FINISH THE CHORES I HAD PLANNED FOR THE DAY!

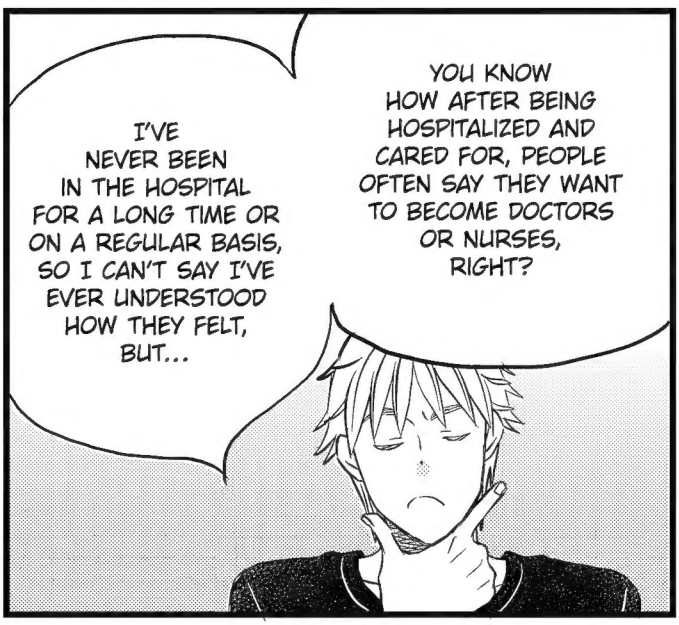
WHAT'S WRONG?
I'M SERIOUSLY MOVED THAT SOMETHING AS MAGNIFICENT AS A DAYCARE EXISTS...

Haaa...

WHAT'S THIS? A TRIBUTE?
AHH... DAYCARE...
IN A GOOD WAY, OF COURSE.
MY LIFE HAS COMPLETELY CHANGED SINCE THE DAY I MET YOU.
THANK YOU, DAYCARE... THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
I WAS ONLY VAGUELY AWARE OF IT BEFORE, BUT THERE AREN'T MANY JOBS AS IMPORTANT AS THIS ONE.
THANK YOU FOR NEVER OVERLOOKING EVEN THE SMALLEST CHANGE IN HER. THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS BEING SO WARM AND CARING...
THANK YOU FOR WATCHING OVER MY DAUGHTER EVERY DAY. THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF HER EVERY DAY...
THAT'S RIGHT! CHILDCARE WORKERS ARE THE AVENGERS WHO WILL NURTURE THE FUTURE OF HUMANKIND...
IT IS NOT AN EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT CHILDCARE WORKERS KEEP THE WORLD SPINNING.
IT'S THANKS TO THEM THAT CHILDREN CAN PLAY SAFELY AND HAVE FUN...
IT'S THANKS TO CHILDCARE WORKERS THAT MANY PARENTS CAN RELAX AND WORK WITHOUT WORRY...

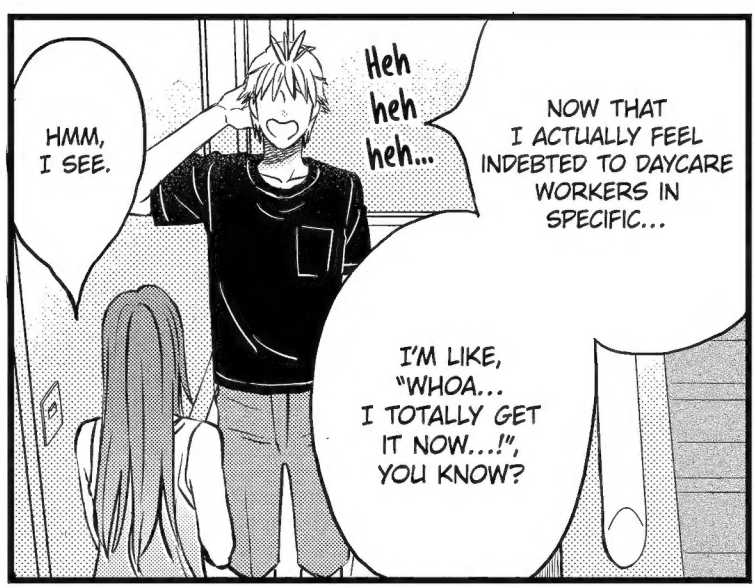
ARE YOU DONE?
I'M DONE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR READING THE PREVIOUS PAGE.

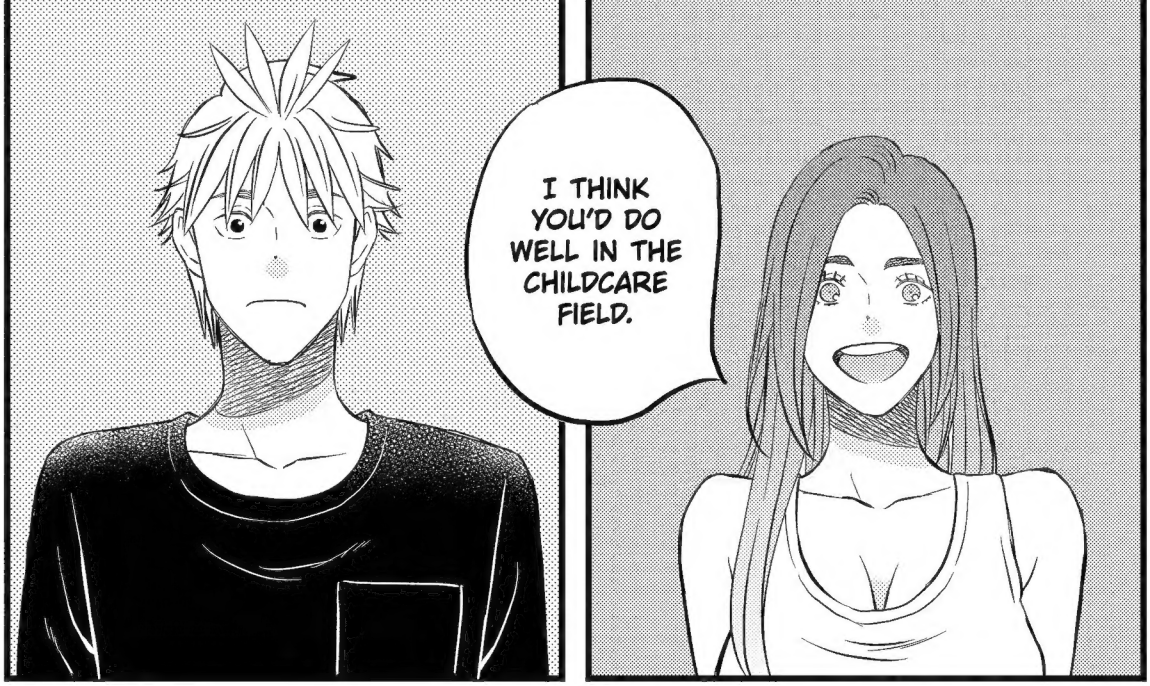
THE WORLD'S FUTURE IS IN THEIR CAPABLE HANDS...
I GENUINELY WISH THEIR SALARIES WERE DOUBLED...

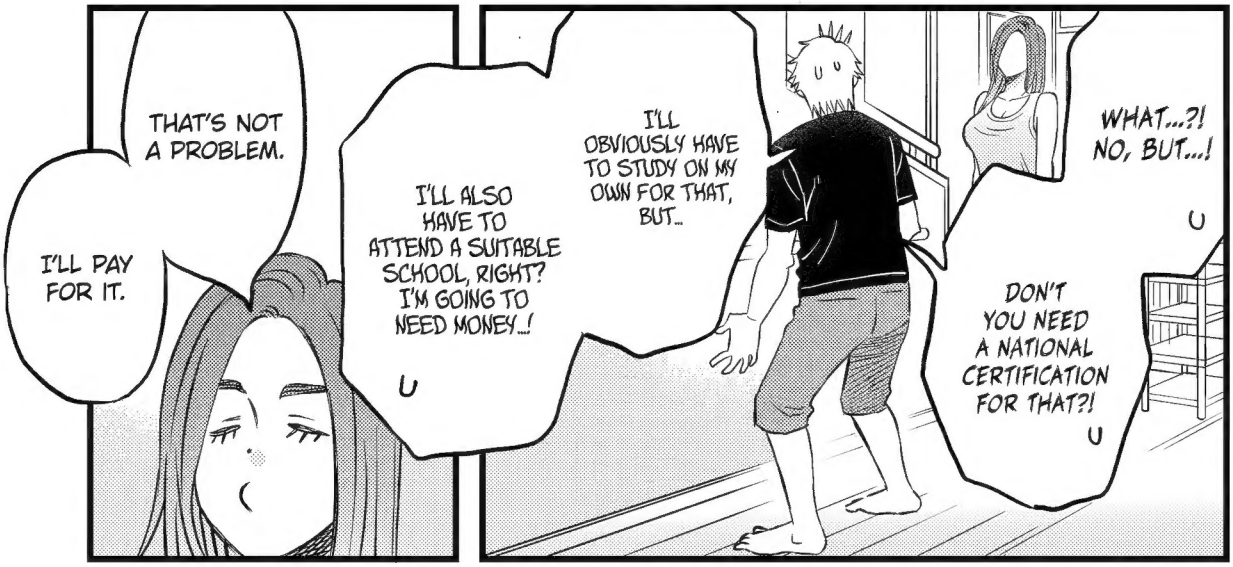

YOU KNOW HOW AFTER BEING HOSPITALIZED AND CARED FOR, PEOPLE OFTEN SAY THEY WANT TO BECOME DOCTORS OR NURSES, RIGHT?
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL FOR A LONG TIME OR ON A REGULAR BASIS, SO I CAN'T SAY I'VE EVER UNDERSTOOD HOW THEY FELT, BUT...

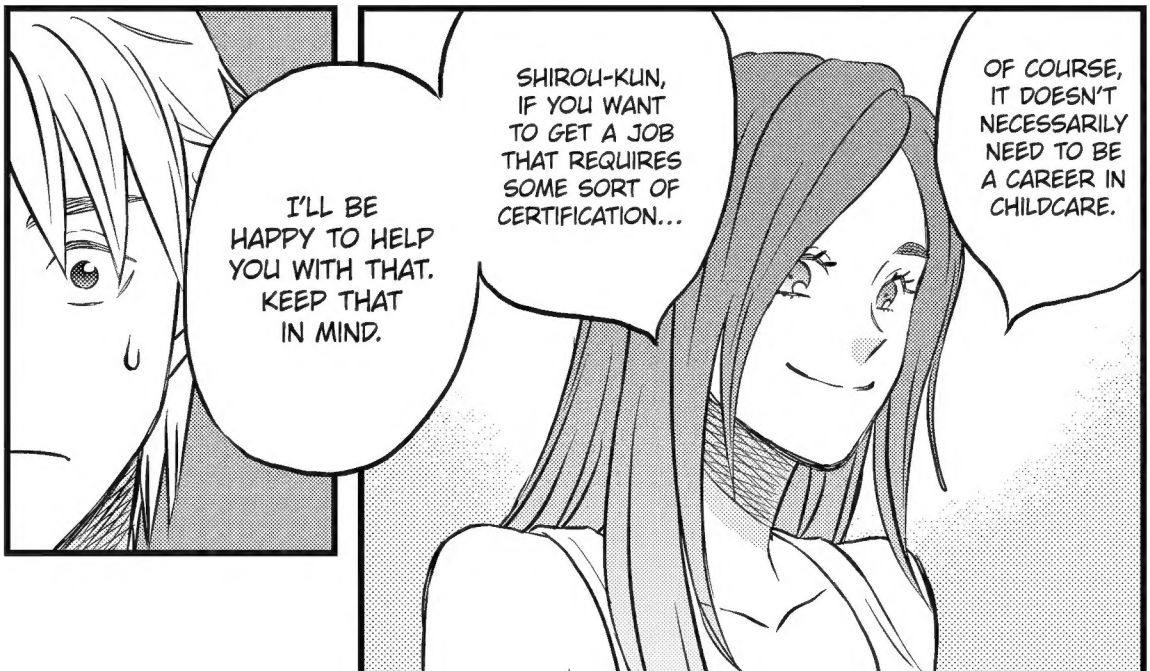
ANYWAY, I'M SO MOVED BY THEIR WORK THAT I'M INADVERTENTLY CONSIDERING A CAREER IN CHILDCARE.
OHH...

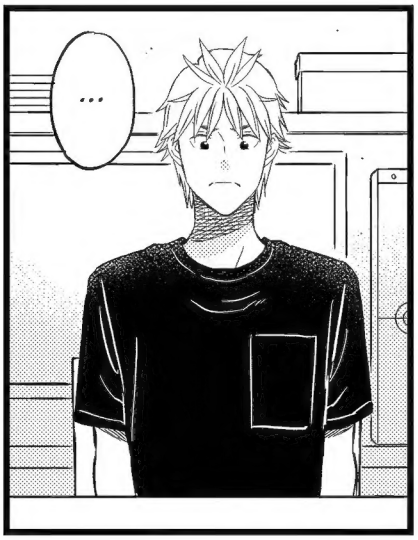
IT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.
HUH?!


NOW THAT I ACTUALLY FEEL INDEBTED TO DAYCARE WORKERS IN SPECIFIC...
Heh heh heh...
HMM, I SEE.
I'M LIKE, "WHOA... I TOTALLY GET IT NOW...!", YOU KNOW?


I THINK YOU'D DO WELL IN THE CHILDCARE FIELD.


WHAT...?! NO, BUT...!
DON'T YOU NEED A NATIONAL CERTIFICATION FOR THAT?!
I'LL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO STUDY ON MY OWN FOR THAT, BUT...
I'LL ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND A SUITABLE SCHOOL, RIGHT? I'M GOING TO NEED MONEY...!
THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM.
I'LL PAY FOR IT.


OF COURSE, IT DOESN'T NECESSARILY NEED TO BE A CAREER IN CHILDCARE.
SHIROU-KUN, IF YOU WANT TO GET A JOB THAT REQUIRES SOME SORT OF CERTIFICATION...
I'LL BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU WITH THAT. KEEP THAT IN MIND.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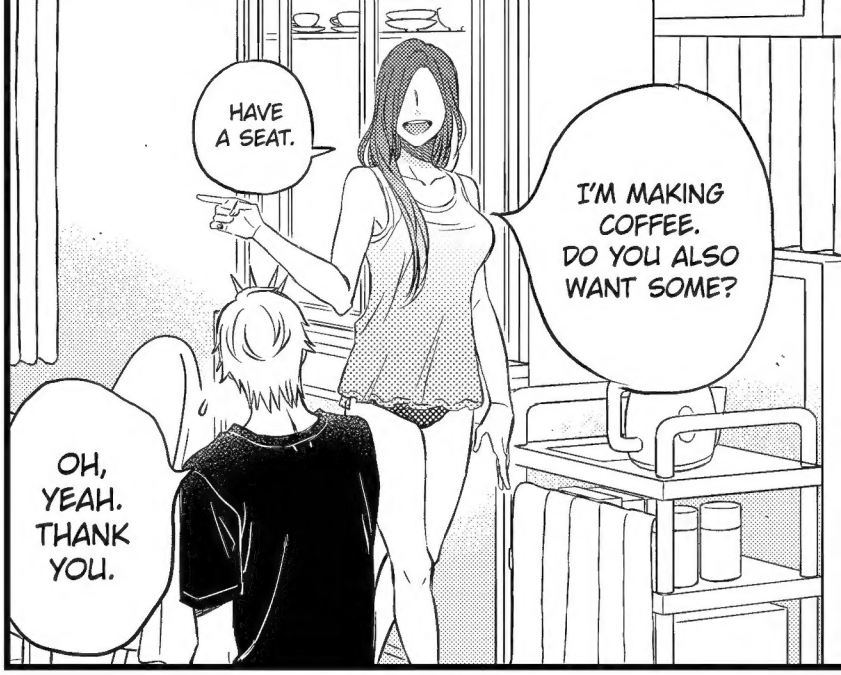
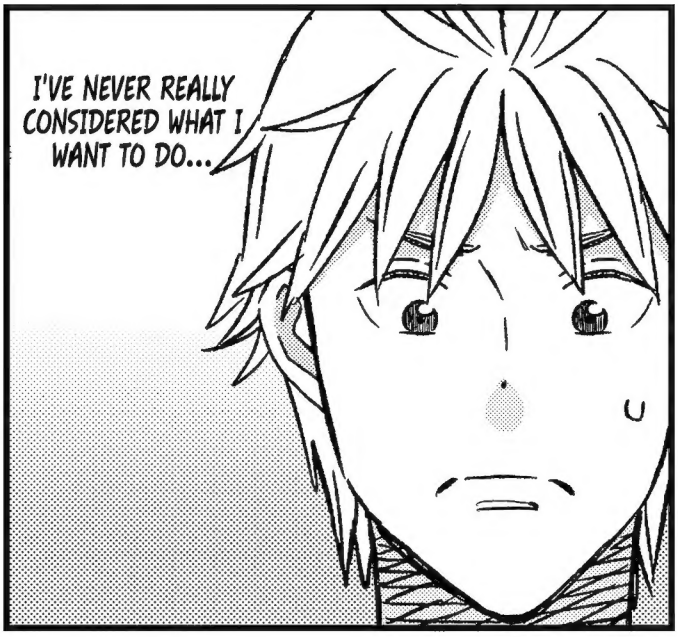
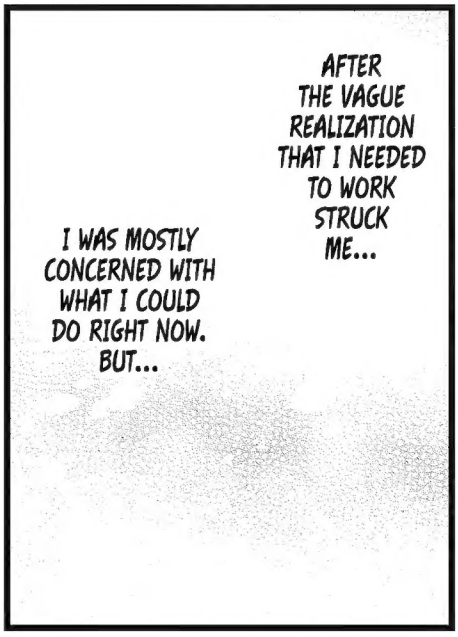
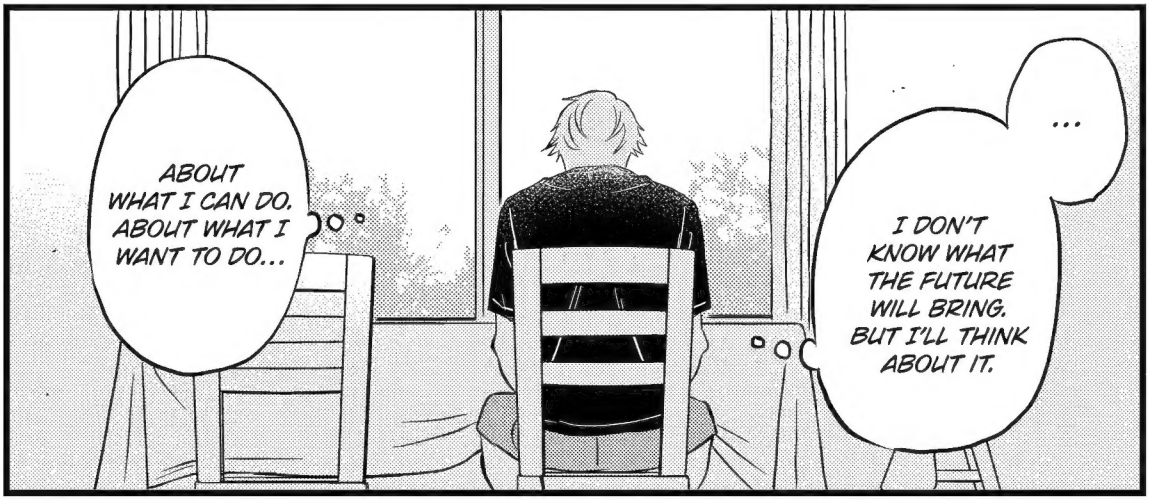

HAVE A SEAT.
I'M MAKING COFFEE. DO YOU ALSO WANT SOME?
OH, YEAH. THANK YOU.


I'VE NEVER REALLY CONSIDERED WHAT I WANT TO DO...


AFTER THE VAGUE REALIZATION THAT I NEEDED TO WORK STRUCK ME...
I WAS MOSTLY CONCERNED WITH WHAT I COULD DO RIGHT NOW. BUT...


ABOUT WHAT I CAN DO. ABOUT WHAT I WANT TO DO...
...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING. BUT I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.